

Saint Louis Audubon

Bulletin

Vol. 39 No. 1

Summer 1972

1972-73 WILDLIFE FILM SERIES TO BE HELD AT THE ETHICAL SOCIETY

Each year the Saint Louis Audubon Society and National Audubon Society offer community enrichment through a delightful full-color presentation of the world of nature and the out-of-doors, personally narrated by outstanding photographer-naturalists. This program, which originated in St. Louis and is now given in 225 cities, was formerly known as the Audubon Screen Tours. The Saint Louis Audubon Society is one of the very few to offer the series free of charge to the general public.

For many years the programs were presented at the Third Baptist Church, Grand and Washington. In an effort to reach a larger audience, the Wildlife Film Series will be held this year at the Ethical Society of St. Louis, 9001 Clayton Road. Ample well lighted parking is available. The Forest Park-Clayton bus and the Delmar-Westroads bus stop at the Westroads Shopping Center not far from the Ethical Society.

This interesting and informative series is being offered in 1972-73, with all dates on a Friday night:

October 6	Greg McMillan "The Living Jungle"
November 3	Walter H. Berlet "West Side Story - Mexico to Alaska"
December 8	Earl L. Hilfiker "Beavers, Water and Wildlife"
March 2	Steve Maslowski "Kentucky Out of Doors"
April 15	Edgar T. Jones "Fabulous Africa"

Through this Wildlife Film Series we again dedicate ourselves to the pleasant task of opening the eyes of young and old that all may come to enjoy the beauty of the outdoor world, and to share in conserving its wonders forever.

* * * * *

ANNUAL MEETING

The Saint Louis Audubon Society held its annual meeting May 25, 1972 at the Saint Louis County Library, 1640 S. Lindbergh Blvd. The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Earl H. Hath at 8:30 P.M.

The Minutes were read and approved. Reports of officers and committees were presented. The last item of business on the agenda was the election of officers and board members. Mrs. Bonna L. Rice, chairman of the nominating committee, offered for consideration the following slate of candidates who were elected by acclamation, there being but one candidate for each office: President, Mr. Earl H. Hath; Vice-Presidents are Mr. Martin Schweig Jr., Mrs. Warren Lammert and Mr. Leo A. Dry; Secretary, Mrs. Earl H. Hath; Treasurer, Mr. Jay G. Rice. Members of the Board of Directors to fill terms of those members whose terms expired in May are:

Mr. George Billy III
Miss Mabel Ross
Miss Sharon Miller
Miss Martha Love

Mrs. Edward F. Mason
Mrs. Hiram Norcross Jr.
Dr. Mildred Trotter
Mr. Kurt Wesseling Jr.

The following members were elected to the Honorary Board of Directors:

Mr. William G. Bowling
Mr. E. G. Cherbonnier
Mr. J. Earl Comfort
Miss Elizabeth Golterman

Mr. Leonard Hall
Mr. Joel Massie
Mr. Waldemar Palm
Mrs. Edmund C. Rodgers

After the business session, members in attendance enjoyed a motion picture in color, narrated by the photographer, Mr. Martin Schweig Jr. It was an ingenious compilation of "shots" taken on a number of short trips to Mexico which depicted many interesting and beautiful aspects of Mexico from the standpoint of ornithology, botany, ecology and history.



As you will notice on the dateline, this is the Summer issue of the Bulletin, the last until late September. We have deliberately delayed publication until all the announcements for next fall were ready and we hope you will mark those dates on your calendar now. We have also included a number of announcements or appeals for action from other organizations. Publication does not imply blanket endorsement by the Saint Louis Audubon Society but simply that we thought they would be of interest to our members.

Have a good Summer! And, if you think it would be of interest, let us know about it!



AUDUBON SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS 1972

The Saint Louis Audubon Society is pleased to announce the recipients of the annual summer camp awards, as follows:

Miss Kathleen Blankman
7301 "O" Normandie Court
Hazelwood, Missouri 63042
Wyoming Camp: June 25-July 7

Mr. Robert Brandeweide
9077 Wrenwood Lane
St. Louis, Missouri 63144
Connecticut Camp: August 20-26

Miss Deborah Day
9785 a Picador
St. Louis, Missouri 63136
Wyoming Camp: August 6-18

Mrs. Grant Kierstead
1771 Dougherty Ferry Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63122
Wyoming Camp: June 25-July 7

Miss Barbara Krehbiel
5654 Leona Street
St. Louis, Missouri 63116
Wisconsin Camp: June 25-July 7

Mr. Bill Maddux
3485 Ludlow Street
Bridgeton, Missouri 63044
Wyoming Camp: August 6-18

Mr. Joseph Smentowski
2320 Bellevue Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63143
Wisconsin Camp: August 6-18

Mrs. Sally Weiss
12 Crosswinds
St. Louis, Missouri 63132
Connecticut Camp: August 6-12



TO THE PENGUINS

Emily L. Norcross

It would have been losing ornithological face to have traveled to the southernmost parts of South America and not to have seen a penguin. Yet penguin colonies are rare this side of Antartica, and roads, trails and traces at the bottom of the continent, few and far between.

We were lucky last January to spend an afternoon and night between planes enroute north at Rio Gallegos on the Atlantic coast of Patagonia. This small, bleak town's main claim to fame is being the jumping-off place for Tierra del Fuego, from whence we had come and as such operates a tourist office to which we rushed on our arrival at noon. We had heard there was a colony in the neighborhood.

"How far is it to the penguins?", we gasped in our best Spanish. "A two hour trip in a taxi", we were told. "Mas o menos." Mas o menos - more or less - is a phrase one hears frequently in Latin America. It is said with a slight vibration of an extended hand, the head tilted querulously and an eyebrow raised. And, face facts, it is always more mas than menos.

We booked a car whose trunk was wisely packed with gasoline and water cans and set off at two with our intrepid driver, heading south. The black top ended at the edge of town and we proceeded on gravel. About seventy-five miles further, we lost the gravel and in another twenty-five miles, lost all semblance of a road and began bouncing across the pampas. Finally, while cutting across an estancia of 200,000 acres, we picked up some car ruts which led us past the lonely lighthouse of Cape Dungeness which guards the entrance to the Straits of Magellan, and down its steep and rock strewn promontory onto a wide stretch of shingly land. By now it was five o'clock. We had seen about a half dozen cars in three hours, two flocks of rheas, a couple of gauchos, one million sheep, and not a town! But we were about to see some penguins! We hoped this crippling pilgrimage was worthwhile. It was.

Between the track and the shore was an expanse of low shrubs, the nesting ground of *Spheniscus Magellanicus* - the Magellanic penguin. We stumbled through them, pulling back the prickly twigs, and discovered about half a dozen nests. We could have stroked the penguins as they sat on their eggs. Lying prone, peering up at us from the parted branches, they seemed to be silky-haired animals with dark gray backs, white fronts and oddly patterned faces. It was hard not to pet them.

Working our way through the scrub we came out onto the shore. The tides here are nearly as high as the Bay of Fundy. The tide being out left a beach sloping down to the water for several hundred yards. Off to our left was a long line of penguins waddling single file from the surf to the top of the beach like a regiment of awkward soldiers returning to their camp grounds. In the distance, to the right, as far as one could see were groups of a dozen or more standing in friendly sociable conclaves.

Camera ready, I slowly approached the nearest group but as I drew closer they edged away into the ocean. When the water was breast high, they fell gently forward to become wave borne. What a transformation in their appearance! Now they looked like ducks or gulls bobbing on the water, heads high on previously invisible necks, truly at home in their own element. Knowing they were safe, they allowed me to get close to them at the edge of the beach and snap their picture.

We trudged back to the car and started the rugged drive home. It was nine o'clock, seven hours since our departure, when we reached Rio Gallegos. The summer sun was low in the sky. It had been quite an afternoon. A fine two hour drive, mas o menos, but we were not leaving South America without having seen penguins nesting, walking and swimming. And a good part of Patagonia, too!

REPORT OF NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY'S REGIONAL CONFERENCE - MARCH 17-20, 1972
HELD AT GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA

James P. Jackson, President
The Audubon Society of Missouri

Late March traditionally brings a remarkable bird concentration to the great southern bend of the Platte River, in east-central Nebraska. Approximately 250,000 sandhill cranes — 70 percent of the North American population of this species — annually stop to rest and feed along the Platte between the towns of Grand Island and Kearney.

On March 18 and 19 of this year, to coincide with the gathering of cranes, Grand Island hosted the first Midwest Regional Conference of the National Audubon Society. President Earl Hath of the St. Louis Chapter and I attended and, yes, we saw sandhill cranes — about 50,000 of them! We counted them in cornfields; watched them wedge over highways and on a moonlit night, observed some 10,000 of them settling down to roost on a sandbar of the wide and shallow Platte River.

A major purpose of the Regional Conference was to emphasize that, as a haven for migrating birds, the Platte is being ecologically threatened. A plan intended to divert water from the Platte River for a series of dams and irrigation impoundments could literally drain the life out of the river. It would destroy a migration staging area not only for cranes but also for Canada and white-fronted geese plus many species of ducks and shorebirds. Several speakers at the Conference addressed themselves to this threat. One spoke with convincing authority on the economic folly of the irrigation project; another, a locally prominent farmer, argued eloquently against its possible harm to the hydrology of the area. It seemed to us that the only ones favoring the project might be certain federal bureaucrats and agri-business leaders who see everything in terms of uncertain dollar signs.

Ron Klataske, regional representative of the National Audubon Society, did an outstanding job of arranging the Conference banquet. It featured as keynote speaker, Mr. Nathaniel P. Reed, Assistant Secretary of the Interior for fish, wildlife and parks, who was well received by nearly 400 Audubonites and their guests. Both Earl Hath and I were particularly pleased to visit with Willard Barbee, former manager of the August A. Busch Wildlife Area in Missouri, and now Director, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission.

Next year, instead of a regional conference, the National Audubon Society will have a national convention. In 1974 there will be a regional conference again; we have placed our bid, to have the next Midwest Regional Conference in Missouri.

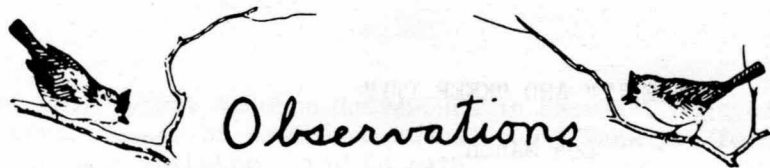


WHITE RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Hearings have been held and decisions will be made after June 26 about establishing a WILDERNESS area within the White River Refuge. Located in south-east Arkansas, this is an important stop-over and wintering ground for many species of birds. There are 169 lakes, many miles of bayou. Much of the bottom-land forest, rich in oaks, cypress, ash and pecan, has unfortunately been logged. Wilderness status would preserve the forests and would restore the natural environment.

Conservationists ask that two areas, one 1000 acres, the other 4000 acres be protected as WILDERNESS, only 5000 acres of a total of 112,000.

Please write to the: Regional Director, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Peachtree-Seventh Bldg., Atlanta, Ga. 30323, and ask that areas "A" and "B" be put under the Wilderness Protection. This is probably the first chance for middle-westerners to establish a wilderness area in our region.



ST. LOUIS AREA SPRING BIRDING

J. Earl Comfort

The annual Spring Bird "Round-up" sponsored by the Saint Louis Audubon Society took place on May 6th. This big event has become known as the 'Century Run' because the goal of many dedicated birders is to find 100 or more species on this big day. Locally, the rules limit the count to an area within a 50 mile radius of the City. The event features daylight and darkness birding, and by sight and sound birding. Any species found within the 24 hour period counts. There is no attempt to count the number of birds, just the number of species. The day was made to order weatherwise and as a result there were many groups afield. They often mingled and then separated.

Each group or individual reported the count to Earl and Connie Hath who compiled the list. The total of 193 species was well above average. Last year's list was 187. The highest individual list was that of Bill Bremser with 144, closely followed by Tim Barksdale with 142. Jack Van Benthuyssen had 139; Dick and Mitzie Anderson, 125. Bill Rowe saw 118 as Kurt Wesseling and Kurt, Jr. As a group, George and Terry Barker, Marge Self and Jim Ruschill found 101 species. There were several groups with high figures but under the coveted 100. Consider the group led by Earl Hath and Kyrle Boldt who lacked one single species to reach 100. Mary Wiese who was with a botany group on this round-up day was diverted enough to list 70 species, among them the only wild turkeys observed.

The best birds of the day were Mississippi kite, pigeon hawk and black-throated blue warbler. All 36 of our area warblers were counted.

As of the date of this report (May 16) the rarest duck of the year was a surf scoter located at the Alton Dam in St. Charles County by Paul Bauer and Dick Anderson. As a result of their information, the exceedingly rare bird was observed and listed by many excited birders. Rarest spring shorebirds have been ruddy turnstone, willet, Hudsonian godwit, sanderling, avocet and northern phalarope.

Because St. Louis area birders are increasing in numbers, the number of birds and the number of bird species listed has increased noticeably. Since birding, botanizing and butterflying go hand in hand our hours afield are delightful and enlightening ones.

LOST OPPORTUNITY

Bird watchers top my honors list.
I aimed to be one but I missed.
Since I am both myopic and astigmatic,
My aim turned out to be erratic,
And I, bespectacled and binocular.
Exposed myself to comment jocular.
That's why I sit here growing old by inches.
Watching the clock instead of finches.
But I sometimes visualize in my gin
The Audubin I audubin!

Ogden Nash

"SEE IT" AND "KEEP IT!"

Lee Mason

Everything fell smoothly into place for the St. Louis Audubon Society's Spring Nature Photography Workshop. It was a beautiful evening May 15th for the indoor meeting scheduled in the main branch auditorium of the St. Louis County Library. The five workshop instructor-teams gave prospective participants a slide-show sampling of their photography, and had camera equipment set up to demonstrate individual techniques. Tips and suggestions were given by each team, and audience questions answered.

The Sunday, May 21, all-day "doing" rally at Missouri Botanical Garden at Gray Summit, Missouri, was a real corker! The weather was perfect, the photographers interested and eager, and Nature most cooperative with all sorts of photographic subjects.

There were many fungi, lichens, mosses, and ferns from the over 100,000 known species of non-flowering plants. The insect realm was also well represented. Of special interest were the commonly called 13-year locusts just reaching their peak of emergence. The bulbous red eye of this periodical cicada was the subject of many closeup lenses. Other colorful bugs and beetles had photographers belly-flopping for "the right angle of view." Intricately marked spiders spread themselves on their gossamer webs or continued cocooning their prey, unmindful of the lenses focused on them.

Tadpoles, toads, and frogs, from the tiny 2 inch tree frog to the booming 8 inch bullfrog submitted to "positioning" quite readily. To the photographers the greatest challengers among the amphibians were the salamanders and mudpuppies.

Bird stalking held a special fascination to photographers learning how it is done from experts like the Bauers and the Liddells. Finding nests of a particular species takes more than just photographic skill; you need to know a bird by sight, song and habitat. A bluejay with a brood of five young was spotted in a photographically perfect location in the crotch of a long-needled pine. In a scraggly juniper a mourning dove tended her two eggs in a nest only four feet above the ground. Eight feet up in a Red Cedar a pair of robins were stuffing four wide open orange-bright mouths with bits of the 14 feet of worms each young robin could consume in a day. Many small birds were busy in the higher reaches of trees everywhere, and telephoto lenses on gunstocks "shot" them without disturbing their song or preening.

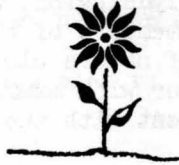
Star of the avian array was Martin Schweig's pet great horned owl. Beautiful Minerva posed quietly, turned this way and that, patiently endured the blinding light from electronic flashes, and accepted all the attention with an enviable nonchalance.

The wildflower buffs ran out of photography time - not subjects. The glades were rich with the last of brilliant paintbrush, golden cinquefoil, red columbine and lacy horsemint. Missouri primrose, larkspur, skullcap, and coreopsis vied for attention. Most photographed, though, was a picture-perfect natural arrangement of shooting star that lent itself to a blue sky background to set off its delicate pink. Along the wide path that led to the glades were deep blue false indigo and umbrella-shaped clusters of the anise-sweet cicely. Edging the cliff ridge trail were lush penstemons and green dragon (the roots of which the Indians used as a starch). Pussy-toes with tiny white flowers full of bristling hairs invited macro-photography. On the gravel bars along the Meramec blue star stood out like a lovely garden flower and yellow star-grass and waxy buttercups winked along many of the paths.

The five instructor-teams brought their groups back to the trail house at noon. Over picnic fare questions were asked, answers given, and discussion held. At one o'clock the photographers regrouped and moved out again. Too soon it was four o'clock, the end of the outing, and time to go home. We believe all who

were a part of this latest Audubon "adventure in seeing", enjoyed it. We had to assume that, after dozens of people countered our "Thank you for coming" with "When's the next such workshop going to be?"

We hope to have a Photographer's Roundup in early November. You'll be invited to submit slides for projection and evaluation by your workshop instructor-teams: Paul and Frances Bauer, Walter and Vivian Liddell, Jim and Keith Jackson, Tom and Cynthia Brooks, and Ed. and Lee Mason.



THE PLEASURES OF FLOATING

Nell Menke

Floating and camping on the small, clear Ozark streams has been one of the prime pleasures of our family life since our six children were small. It continues to be so now that we are again reduced to the common denominator - two.

We have gone through many stages from Explorer Scout adventures (caves and snakes) to father-daughter Halloween weekends - always blessed by a visit from the Great Pumpkin and ceremonial swim, though not always by warm and sunny skies! Family floats with other congenial and hardy groups often formed a sizeable flotilla. The end of a day on the river, with a good gravel bar, a refreshing swim and everyone gathered around the campfire, are among our favorite times to remember. Nothing quite compares to a soft, summer night on the river, when we would relax after the day's exertion; the men fish till the mist creeps in and the stars begin to come out. Darkness closes in and the whip-poor-wills and bull frogs start to tune up and we have added another unforgettable day to the many that have gone before.

Each trip is full of such treasures because there is always a surprise just around the next bend: a tricky riffle that calls for some skill to run without dumping over; a few spirited shrieks from the distaff side to "put down that rod and pay attention"; a heron rising from a low branch to flap slowly ahead to the next convenient perch; a kingfisher rattling his indignation at our invasion of his personal stretch of the stream; a bank of brilliant scarlet cardinal flowers or a bluff rising above the water planted with an assortment of beauty, no matter what the season. In early spring there are the pastel colors of dogwood, redbud and bloodroot; in the fall a blaze of red and yellow foliage and always there is the background of the moss and lichen-covered rocks.

All this has made it possible for us to give our children a glimpse of wilderness close at hand, for once in the canoe, following the current between wooded banks and rocky bluffs, one feels far from civilization, even though a farm lies just beyond the sycamores that line the river. On quiet stretches of the river with a deeper bit of woodland, we often startle a pair of wood ducks or sight a red-tailed hawk or even an osprey circling above us. Turtles line up on the logs we drift by and plop off as we come too close, and we see an occasional muskrat swimming across or keeping an eye on us from the riverbank. An iridescent blue damselfly may hitchhike on paddle or arm awhile before flying off to more interesting pursuits.

All of these random memories have given so much to all of us in the way of refreshment and renewal that we need. It is small wonder that the thought of any of our sparkling streams lying buried under a great, muddy lake is anathema. A lake just sits there covering the beautiful highway we've followed so many times, an ever changing highway of infinite delight with a surprise around every bend.

1972 FITZMAN SUMMER NATURE PROGRAM

The Missouri Botanical Garden Arboretum and Nature Reserve near Gray Summit, Missouri, will be the setting for the Fitzman Summer Nature Program again this summer. There will be four sections of ten day sessions. A chartered bus transports the children to and from the Nature Reserve at \$10.50 per child per 10 day session. The charge for each child not riding the bus is \$2.50 per 10 day session.

Section I starts June 12 and runs through June 23; Section II, June 28 through July 12; Section III, July 17 through 28; Section IV, July 31 through August 11. The ornithology classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the four Sections.

We will have various guest teachers, Marlyn Higgins, Claudia Spencer, Kevin Renick, Rose Anne Bodman and Lanier Criger, all members of the Audubon Society. There will be guest speakers to bring the subject of nature closer to the children: Mary Wiese with her bird nests, Richard Grossenheider with mammals, Bill Brush with a hawk and an owl, and the Missouri Conservation agent with the rules and regulations on birds and animals.

There is great opportunity for field trips and teaching on the spot at the Arboretum, with its wide ecological variety from glade and old meadow to forest and flood plain. In addition to birds we can teach plant and insect life to the group as we go along. The trails are well marked and mowed; they are easy to follow.

The Trail House at the Arboretum rings with childish voices from 10:30 A.M. to 2:30 P.M. It is the sound of summer.

BOY SCOUTS OPEN NEW HIKING TRAIL IN MEMORY OF JOHN JAMES AUDUBON

A hiking trail honoring the memory of naturalist John James Audubon was opened to Scout hikers on May 1, 1972. The trail, located in St. Genevieve County, was developed by the Council's Historic Trails Committee. The new trail traverses a rugged wilderness area in which the hiker will encounter about 3000 vertical feet of ups and downs on the 12 mile circular route.

Audubon came to St. Genevieve in early 1810 with his friend Ferdinand Rozier to establish a mercantile business. While in St. Genevieve, Audubon roamed the nearby woods, collecting and painting birds. A collection of birds collected and mounted by Audubon is on display in the St. Genevieve City Museum. Audubon left St. Genevieve in April, 1811 after dissolving his partnership with Rozier and thereafter devoted his energies full-time to collecting and painting birds for his great classic, The Birds of America.

To provide healthful outdoor adventure and to emphasize our historical heritage, the Council operates six other hiking trails in the Council area. These are:

- Taum Sauk - Iron and Reynolds Counties
- Meramec Ridge - Jefferson County
- Daniel Boone - St. Charles and Warren Counties
- Manuel Lisa - St. Charles County
- Plattin Hollows - St. Genevieve and Jefferson Counties
- Green-Rock - St. Louis County

Hiking all the Council trails is a goal of most scouts. With the addition of the Audubon Trail, this feat now involves 110 miles of walking.

Scout hikers can obtain information about the trail from the Council's Camping Service.

Boy Scouts of America
St. Louis Area Council
4568 West Pine Blvd.
St. Louis, Mo. 63108

Paul A. Brockland
Director of Camping
361-0600

MOTORBIKES VS NATIONAL PARKS

On the 1st of July, 1972, the Clark and Mark Twain National Forests in Missouri plan to start a new policy that would permit motorbikes and all other types of Motorized Recreational Vehicles (MRV) to be used. Several concerned individuals, like myself, requested and received a copy of the proposed policy to permit usage of MRV's in the Missouri National Forests.

The following excerpts from a letter I wrote to the Forest Service express some of my concerns about this proposed new use of the wilderness areas in Missouri.

If you share my concern, I beg you also to help by writing to:

Mr. Donald L. Rollins
Supervisor, Clark National Forest
P. O. Box 937
Rolla, Missouri 65401

Mr. John E. Ledgerwood
Acting Forest Supervisor
Mark Twain National Forest
Belcrest and East Trafficway
Springfield, Missouri 65802

The numerous controls that you propose on the use of MRV's makes it apparent to me that you are aware of the potential problems that excessive or uncontrolled usage could cause. I am sure we both realize that there are many aspects of this problem. Let me describe a few that I see.

Policing such a policy would be a major task for your office. How do you propose measuring and enforcing the 85 db sound limit at 50 ft? Will the engine be at full throttle? These vehicles can move fast and will arrive in great numbers. Your staff will need to be everywhere at once to enforce this policy, or you might need to close the trails AFTER damage is caused by improper and excessive usage. Closing trails after they are damaged does not protect the National Forest.

Promoting (or permitting) the use of MRV's in Missouri is odd since other northern and eastern states are now trying to curtail or avoid the excessive damage these vehicles are causing. Why bring this new problem to Missouri?

I am sure you are aware of the real damage that MRV's cause to the forest floor; the soil is compacted, turf is removed, erosion of already thin soil starts and continues because new growth under the above conditions is impossible. The danger of forest fire is increased because more smokers and machines are in the forests.

If you really enforced all of the rules listed under Section F of the proposed policy for MRV's, there would be few if any months of the year when MRV's could rightly be used; only when the ground was frozen, no birds nesting, no hunting was in season or when fire danger was minimal. Section F-1, protecting wildlife from intrusion by man during nesting would exclude March through July. Woodpeckers, owls and hawks nest very early (during March) and migrant birds nest twice with the second brood ready to leave roughly in late July. Section F-2, avoiding disturbance during hunting season would exclude much of Fall, Winter and Spring. Section F-3 would exclude usage during periods of high forest fire danger which can occur at any time; this has been a dry winter! However, fire hazard would usually exclude MRV usage during late Summer and early Fall. Section F-4 is concerned with erosion during wet periods such as after the winter thaw and during the Spring rains.

I firmly believe MRV's should be restricted to private land; public land should not be exposed to this damage; only paved roads that exist should be used. We beg you never to permit the National Forests in Missouri to be raped by machines such as MRV's, or by people who have no real love for a wilderness.

Paul E. Bauer, Vice President, The Audubon Society of Missouri

The paintings and drawings of wildlife artist Charles W. Schwartz are nationally recognized. Whether in the pages of the Missouri Conservationist magazine or in the illustrations of the late Aldo Leopold's masterpiece, Sand County Almanac, they are noted for both their excellence as wildlife art and for their biological accuracy.

For the first time, the noted Missouri artist has consented to reproduction of a limited edition of some of his works. A color reproduction of the oil painting "Missouri Canadas", showing a flock of geese against a darkening sky, is limited to 3,000 in a signed, numbered series. Four black and white drawings comprise the "New Life" series. These drawings depict a raccoon and cubs, doe and fawn, Mallard hen and brood, and quail and chicks.



The drawing and oil painting reproductions are being offered to contributors to the Citizens Committee for Conservation. The 24" x 32" total color reproduction of "Missouri Canadas" will be sent to those donors who contribute \$50.00 or more. The same value has been placed on the four-drawing "New Life" series.

Contributions will be used by the Citizens Committee For Conservation to further public awareness of the Design For Conservation plan and to develop citizen support for the Constitutional Amendment in the November election to provide conservation funding through a 1 cent tax on soda pop.

The Charles W. Schwartz reproductions are available through the Citizens Committee For Conservation, 312 E. Capitol Avenue, Jefferson City, Missouri. A brochure describing the drawings and painting is available on request.

OUR SEARCH FOR RARE PLANTS IN SOUTHERN MISSOURI

Arthur Christ

Many of the flowering plants which we found on our trip to Southern Missouri during the second week of May were not rare plants in the region in which we found them, but they are unfamiliar to those who study plants in the St. Louis area.

Our first search for unfamiliar plants was in the Dutchtown area, Near Cape Girardeau in Cape Girardeau County. Here we found Red Buckeye (*Aesculus Pavia*) and Tulip Tree (*Liriodendron Tulipifere*) in flower, and also Sweet Gum (*Liquidambar Stryaciflua*) and Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*). Under the beech trees were last year's dried fruiting stalks of Beech-drops (*Epifagus virginiane*), a plant which only grows under Beech trees and which was first discovered in Missouri in 1933.

At the base of Crowley Ridge near Dexter in Stoddard County we found the rare variety of Tupelo (*Nyssa sylvaticavar. sylvatica*), which previously had been found only in Pemiscot, Dunklin and Ripley counties. Also in this area we revisited the colony of a hundred or so Large Whorled Pogonia orchids (*Isotria verticillata*), which we found a couple of years ago.

In a ditch along Highway 60 between Dexter and Poplar Bluff were many flowering Copper Iris (*Iris fulva*). Also in this area were Lake Cress (*Armoracia*) which grows in water and is a relative of the cultivated Horseradish, the beautiful Snow-bell shrub (*Styrax americana* var. *americana*), Swamp Leather Flower (*Clematis crispa*), which is the showiest of the Clematis found native in Missouri.

In Greenbrier Hollow in Oregon County we found the rare Fly Poison (*Amianthium muscaetoxicum*) in flower; also there were a great many plants of Crested Iris (*Iris cristata*) which were through blooming, and Supple-Jack (*Berchemia scandens*) which was in flower.

At "The Narrows" in southern Oregon County there were Death Camas (*Zigadenus Nuttallii*) at their only known station in Missouri. It was here that Widow's Cross (*Sedum pulchellum*) with its pretty pink flowers covered the ground.



ONE DAY IN JUNE

Rose Ann Bodman

The article in BIRDING said the Swainson's warbler could be seen near Pomona, in Jackson County, Illinois, where it nests. We took a short walk down a railroad track along a dense wood where cane grows and there is a stream. We heard the unmistakable song. The clear notes poured out and there he was! The brown bird with the rusty cap flew in and perched on a bare branch, only a few yards away. He showed his profile and the large bill was prominent. This usually elusive warbler - a life bird for all ten St. Louis birders - sat and sang and provided a memorable view.

Vernon Kleen of Carbondale, author of the BIRDING article, beamed proudly and reported the Swainson's warbler had appeared once again for a group of visiting birders. His perfect record remained intact.

In the same area we heard or saw other warblers - Blue-winged, Cerulean, Parula, Redstart, Prothonotary, Kentucky, Yellowthroat, Yellow, Yellow-breasted Chat and Louisiana Waterthrush. We heard four Vireos - Warbling, White-eyed, Yellow-throated and Red-eyed. An Acadian flycatcher sang persistently.

Near the warbler site in Shawnee National Forest is a beautiful natural bridge and farther south is the Pine Woods trail, both worthwhile stops, complete with picnic tables. Luna and Poplar Sphinx moths were beautiful lagniappes to view at leisure.

Back within the 50 mile area we checked Ft. Kaskaskia hoping to see the Falcon-shaped Mississippi Kite which had eluded us farther south. He was almost as cooperative as the warbler. Perched on a dead tree, near Pavilion atop the river bluff, he showed us his back, and as he turned to preen we could see the beautiful gray head with black masking the eyes. Later we saw a pair of kites soaring high above the river. Their swept-back wings and dark tail identified them to everyone's satisfaction.

As we followed the levee back to St. Louis, we saw Cattle Egrets which flew when chased by pugnacious Red-winged Blackbirds. We also listed Green Heron, Great Blue, Common Egret, Black-crowned Night Heron and more than a dozen Little Blues. We saw a surprising number of shorebirds lingering into June, Black-bellied Plovers, White-rumped and Semipalmated Sandpipers. A Least Tern flew over the last pond on the Levee road.

It was a perfect day in June!



Anyone interested in wildlife preservation and antitrapping (specifically outlawing the steel jaw leghold trap) please contact Jeff Miller, 1130 Mason Road, St. Louis, Missouri 63131 or telephone (314) 878-7740 or 878-7227. Correspondence from those interested in domestic animal protection is welcome also. Remember, better late than never, the earlier your reply, the more that can be done regarding any issue.



Audubon Activities

ST. LOUIS AUDUBON FALL PICNIC

Reserve October 1st. on your calendar now. Bring your lunch and your family and be prepared for lots of enjoyment and some education. We are privileged to be invited to the Sunny Ranch by Ruby and Burrell Pickering. Sunny Ranch is 500 acres of private wilderness in Warren County complete with several marked nature trails through heavy woods, many ponds, and an excellent nature museum. There will be plenty of time for hiking and social enjoyment for all the members. There will also be some NATURE WORKSHOPS in Botany, Butterflies, Birds, Geology and Pondlife. More details will be provided in the September Bulletin.

Application for Joint Membership

Check the Membership You Desire (includes Audubon Magazine)

Individual	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$12.00 per year	Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ 50.00 per year
Family	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$15.00 per year	Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$100.00 per year
Sustaining	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$25.00 per year	Donor	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$250.00 per year
Life	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$1000.00			

Name

Please Print

Address

City..... State..... Zip #.....

Your Local Chapter St. Louis Audubon Society

IMPORTANT: Indicate whether this is a new membership or a renewal payment by checking the proper box.—NEW ☐ RENEWAL ☐

Please make checks payable to: — National Audubon Society,
950 Third Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10022

Membership Fees and Contributions are tax deductible.

Return Address:

St. Louis Audubon Society
Miss Mildred Reese, Executive Secretary
930 a Bates Ave.
St. Louis, Mo. 63111

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
St. Louis, Mo.
Permit No. 5128

Mrs. Martin Dietrich
9843 Meadowfern
St. Louis, Mo. 63126